



# Soil and Ground Water Remediation Near Webb Well Field

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**Background:**

- The Webb Well Field is located in the town of Franklin, in Johnson County. Webb Well Field consisted of three municipal wells and was used by the Indiana American Water Company to supplement the municipal water supply. Through routine sampling done in compliance with Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) reporting requirements, the utility discovered that two wells in the Webb Well Field had been impacted by the chemicals cis-1,2-dichloroethylene and trans-1,2-dichloroethylene. However, the water from the Webb Well Field was treated at the drinking water facility, and tested before it entered the public water supply. After treatment, these chemicals were not detected in the water above U.S. EPA's safe drinking water standards. The testing data shows that consumers were receiving safe water to drink. Indiana American Water Company discontinued its use of the Webb Wellfield in November of 2013. The utility currently draws and treats water from its Sugar Creek well field. Data show that the utility continues to provide safe drinking water to consumers.
- IDEM began work to investigate the source of the contaminants to the well field in 2009. A fact sheet was compiled as part of ground water sampling efforts in February 2012. This fact sheet contains updated information about IDEM's environmental investigation into the source of the contaminants, environmental impacts of the chemicals of concern, and cleanup efforts to date.

**Description:**

- From 2009 to 2013, IDEM staff conducted a ground water investigation in the area around and including the Webb Well Field in Franklin, Johnson County.
- The purpose of this investigation was to identify the source of this ground water contamination and address it so that it no longer affected or threatened this water supply for citizens of Johnson County.
- The results of the investigation led to a source of chlorinated organic compounds up-gradient from the Webb Well Field.
- The Responsible Party for the chlorinated contamination is actively investigating the bounds of the contamination in order to address it under state guidelines.

**Environmental Impacts:**

- The chemicals cis-1,2-dichloroethylene and trans-1,2-dichloroethylene can be used in dry cleaning and industrial degreasing activities, but typically derive from the anaerobic breakdown of other chemicals (e.g., trichloroethylene or tetrachloroethylene) used in dry cleaning and industrial degreasing activities.
- Exposure to these compounds can happen in many ways but most commonly occurs by releases that leach through soil into the ground water and subsequently are taken up into drinking water wells.
- Human exposure to high levels of cis-1,2-dichloroethylene and trans-1,2-dichloroethylene could cause health problems. A fact sheet explaining these compounds and their affects in more detail is available from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry at [www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=463&tid=82](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=463&tid=82).

### **IDEM's Role:**

- IDEM is responsible for protecting human health and the environment while providing for safe industrial, agricultural, commercial, and governmental operations vital to a prosperous economy.
- IDEM's State Cleanup Program oversees responsible party cleanups to assure they are adequately remediated and no longer pose harm to citizens or the environment.
- IDEM's State Cleanup Program is available to answer questions and address concerns of area residents.

### **Citizen's Role:**

- Citizens are encouraged to review information that is available on the project, and contact the IDEM project manager with questions and concerns.

### **More Information:**

- For information about the cleanup of this contamination, contact Tim Johnson, project manager with IDEM's State Cleanup Program, at (317) 234-3931 (direct), (800) 451-6027, ext. 4-3931 (toll free), or via e-mail at [tjohnson@idem.IN.gov](mailto:tjohnson@idem.IN.gov). For information about IDEM's State Cleanup Program, please visit IDEM's website at [www.idem.in.gov/4143.htm](http://www.idem.in.gov/4143.htm).
- To view documents on the investigation and cleanup activities for the Webb Well Field, visit IDEM's Virtual File Cabinet, online at <http://vfc.idem.in.gov/facility-search.aspx>.
  - For data from water samples that were collected for the initial site investigation for Webb Well Field, visit IDEM's Site Screening/Assessment document at [https://ecm.idem.in.gov/cs/idcplg?IdcService=GET\\_FILE&dID=4565569&dDocName=70022793&Rendition=web&allowInterrupt=1&noSaveAs=1&fileName=70022793.pdf](https://ecm.idem.in.gov/cs/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&dID=4565569&dDocName=70022793&Rendition=web&allowInterrupt=1&noSaveAs=1&fileName=70022793.pdf).
  - For the Initial Site Investigation Report for the Webb Well Field, visit [https://ecm.idem.in.gov/cs/idcplg?IdcService=GET\\_FILE&dID=80011957&dDocName=80012105&Rendition=web&allowInterrupt=1&noSaveAs=1&fileName=80012105.pdf](https://ecm.idem.in.gov/cs/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&dID=80011957&dDocName=80012105&Rendition=web&allowInterrupt=1&noSaveAs=1&fileName=80012105.pdf).
  - For IDEM's letter concerning its review of the Initial Site Investigation Report, visit [https://ecm.idem.in.gov/cs/idcplg?IdcService=GET\\_FILE&dID=80027459&dDocName=80027617&Rendition=web&allowInterrupt=1&noSaveAs=1&fileName=80027617.pdf](https://ecm.idem.in.gov/cs/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&dID=80027459&dDocName=80027617&Rendition=web&allowInterrupt=1&noSaveAs=1&fileName=80027617.pdf).
- For fact sheets and information about cis-1,2- dichloroethylene and trans-1,2- dichloroethylene, or other ground water contaminants, visit the Indiana State Department of Health website at [www.in.gov/isdh/18878.htm](http://www.in.gov/isdh/18878.htm), or the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's "ToxFAQs" website at [www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=463&tid=82](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=463&tid=82).
- For health-related information, please visit the following websites and/or contact the following agencies:
  - The Johnson County Health Department; questions or concerns may be directed to John Bonsett, Director, at (317) 346-4369 or [jbonsett@co.johnson.in.us](mailto:jbonsett@co.johnson.in.us).
  - The Indiana State Department of Health's Epidemiology Resource Center, at <http://www.state.in.us/isdh/25208.htm>.
  - Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/dro/r5.html>; direct questions to Mark Johnson at (312) 353-3436, or (800) 621-8431, ext. 3-3436;
- For drinking water data, visit IDEM's Safe Drinking Water Information Search, online at <http://myweb.in.gov/IDEM/DWW/>.
- Members of the news media may contact Amy Smith, public information officer with IDEM's Office of Media Relations, at (317) 233-4927 (direct), (800) 451-6027, ext. 3-4927 (toll free), or by e-mail at [amsmith@idem.in.gov](mailto:amsmith@idem.in.gov).